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March 6, 2007

Representative Joel Sheltrown
S1387 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative,

I would like to give my support on your proposed HB 4323. This bill offers a tremendous opportunity to the counties of the Northern Lower Peninsula in the increase of tourism dollars it can produce. I work in 4 counties of the Northeastern Lower Peninsula: Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego and Crawford counties; my office sells recreational real estate to vacation buyers. We have been in operation in these counties since 1967. We have seen numerous factors affecting our buyer's decisions over the years and of late, the greatest demand from buyers of all price points has been the request to have their cottage located in Montmorency County. When asked why they only want this county, their answers were always the same, "they allow ATVs". Currently every county that I work in allows for ATVs to be ridden on the designated trails, but Montmorency County is the only one to additionally offer riders to use the sides of the roads for travel. Due to this fact, the buyers see only Montmorency to be "ATV friendly". Please also consider that many of these ATV riders are sportsman and use these machines for traveling in and out of the woods prior to and following the hunting hours. I ask that you reconsider the time line that you are setting on this bill. In today's challenging financial times, I am sure that you would agree that every county should have the ability to share in any advantage that they can. That is why I so strongly support your bill and hope that you are successful in having it passed in to law.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my opinion on this proposed bill, I look forward to seeing it in the law books.

With respect,

Shawn E. Huston
Broker/Owner Huston Real Estate Inc.
God Bless America



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